

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF APPEALS

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In the Matter of TINA L. SOWDERS, Minor.

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FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

MARY SOWDERS,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

JOHN SOWDERS,

Respondent.

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UNPUBLISHED

October 21, 2003

No. 246663

Bay Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 83-002254-NA

Before: Bandstra, P.J., and Hoekstra and Borrello, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent Mary Sowders appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating her parental rights to the minor child pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i) and (g). We affirm. This appeal is being decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E).

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that at least one statutory ground for termination had been proved by clear and convincing evidence. *In re IEM*, 233 Mich App 438, 450; 592 NW2d 751 (1999). Respondent maintains that she was not given “the appropriate attention to show she could be capable of providing proper care and custody.” We disagree. The record clearly and convincingly establishes that the agency provided numerous services to help respondent improve her parenting skills, and to address her mental health needs. Despite these efforts, she failed or refused to participate. Moreover, respondent rarely visited the child, and during visits she showed no improvement in her parenting skills. Further, on the basis of this same evidence, the trial court’s finding regarding the child’s best interests was not clearly erroneous. *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 354, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000); MCL 712A.19b(5). Therefore, the trial court did not clearly err in terminating respondent’s parental rights. *Trejo, supra* at 356-357.

Affirmed.

/s/ Richard A. Bandstra

/s/ Joel P. Hoekstra

/s/ Stephen L. Borrello